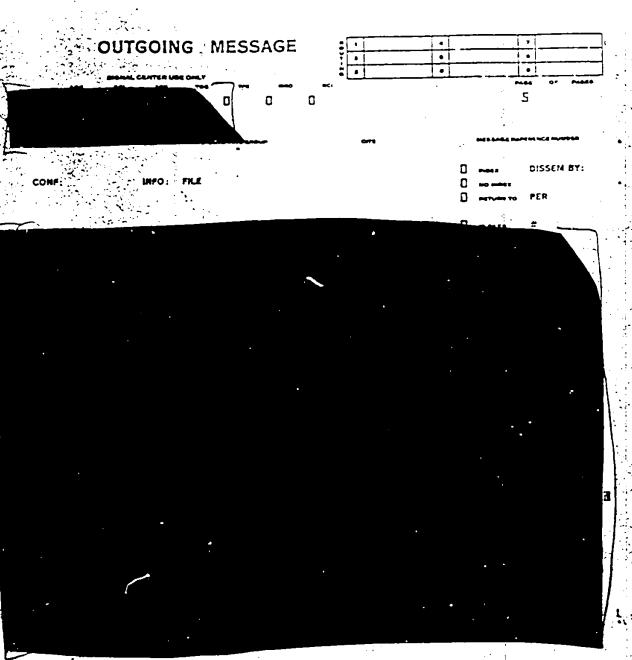
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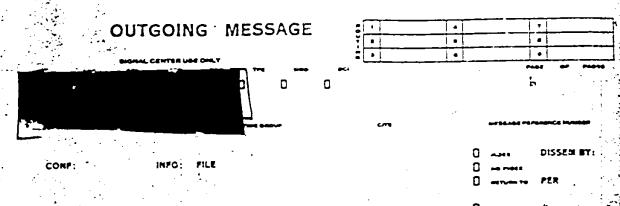
3 %. ANGOLA-CHINA: A DELEGATION FROM THE SOVIET-BACKED POPULAR MOVEMENT FOR THE LIBERATION OF ANGLOLA, ONE OF THE THREE LIBERATION GROUPS THAT SHARE POWER IN ANGOLA'S TRANSITIONAL GOVERNMENT, IS

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CURRENTLY VISITING PEKING. THE DELEGATION IS LED BY LUCIO LARA,
DEPUTY TO MPLA PRESIDENT AGOSTINHO NETO. LARA PROBABLY WILL
ATTEMPT TO CONVINCE THE CHINESE TO REDUCE OR CEASE THEIR SUPPORT
TO THE NATIONAL FRONT FOR THE LIBERATION OF ANGOLA, THE POPULAR
MOVEMENT'S MAJOR RIVAL, AND PERHAPS WILL EVEN SEEK TO OBTAIN SOME
CHINESE AID FOR METO'S ORGANIZATION.Y

PEKING HAS PROVIDED THE FRONT WITH MODEST AMOUNTS OF ARMS

AND AMMUNITION AND HAS ASSIGNED ABOUT 100 MILITARY ADVISERS TO THE

FRONT'S TRAINING CAMPS IN THE REPUBLIC OF ZAIRE. PEKING'S DECISION

TO RECEIVE REPRESENTATIVES OF THE POPULAR MOVEMENT. MAY BE IN PART

RECOGNITION OF THAT GROUP'S GROWING POLITICAL STRENGTH IN RECENT

MONTHS.Y

THE INVITATION TO THE POPULAR MOVEMENT ALSO APPEARS TO BE PART

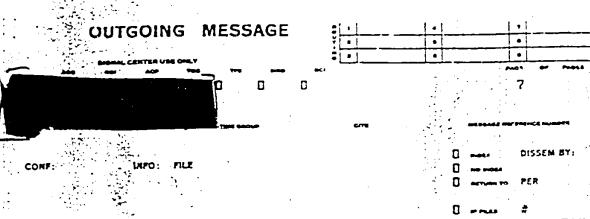
OF A LARGER EFFORT BY THE CHINESE TO ESTABLISH A DEEGREE OF IN
FLUENCE IN ALL THREE ANGOLAN NATIONALIST GROUPS. ABOUT A MONTH AGO.

A DELEGATION REPRESENTIONS THE NATIONAL UNION FOR THE TOTAL

INDEPENDENCE OF ANGOLA. THE SMALLEST OF THE THREE NATIONALIST

ORGANIZATIONS. VISITED CHINA AND WAS PROMISED A SMALL AMOUNT OF

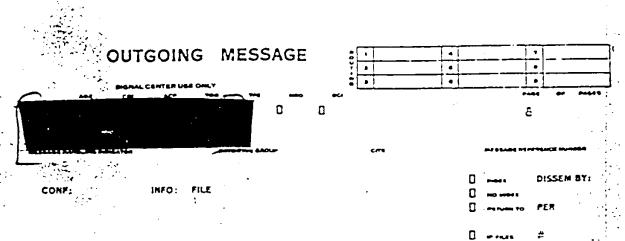
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MILITARY AID. PEKING HAS PROVIDED MODEST FUNDS TO THIS ORGANIZATION FOR AT LEAST THE PAST YEAR. THE CHINESE PROBABLY HILL CONTINUE TO CHANNEL THE BULK OF THEIR MILITARY ASSISTANCE TO THE NATIONAL FRONT.Y

CHINA'S MOVE TO BROADEN ITHS INFLUENCE AMONG THE RIVAL ANGOLAN GROUPS MAY STEM FROM CONCERN ABOUT A POSSIBLE RIFT BETWEEN ZAIRIAN PRESIDENT MOBUTU AND THE NATIONAL FRONT OVER THE FUTURE OF OIL-RICH CHABINDA. WHILE ALL THE ANGOLANS ASSERT THAT THE EXCLAVE IS PART OF THEIR COUNTRY, MOBUTU HAS YET TO RECOGNIZE THIS CLAIM. PEKING MAY FEAR THE DISPUTE MAY EVENTUALLY CAUSE MOBUTU TO WITHDRAW HIS SUPPORT FROM THE NATIONAL FRONT, A DEVELOPMENT THAT WOULD BREAKEN THE FRONT IN ITS STRUGGLE WITH THE POPULAR MOVEMENT AND NATIONAL UNION. IN ANY EVENT, CONTACT WITH THE POPULAR MOVEMENT AND NATIONAL UNION AT THIS POINT CAN ONLY HELP ENSURE THAT PEKING WILL BE WELL-POSITIONED WHEN ANGOLA GAINS ITS INDEPENDENCE IN MOVEMBER—EVEN IF THIS MEANS IRRITATIONG MOBUTU BY DEALING WITH THE PROPULAR MOVEMENT. MOBUTU HAS LONG BEEN AT ODDS WITH THE POPULAR MOVEMENT.

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IN COMING MONTHS. THE CHINESE WILL SEEK TO KEEF THEIR

RELATIONS WITH MOBUTU AND THE ANGOLANS ON A GENERALLY EVEN KEEL.

THIS MEANS SCRUPULOUSLY AVOIDING ENTANGLEMENT IN THE CABINDA

DISPUTE. LATE LAST YEAR WHEN MOBUTU VISITED PEKING, HE ATTEMPTED

TO INVOLVE THE CHINESE BY REQUESTING MILITARY INSTRUCTORS FOR

CABINDANS LIVING IN ZAIRE. PEKING NOT ONLY TURNED DOWN THE

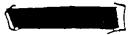
REQUEST, BUT REFUSED TO SEND GUERRILLA WARFARE INSTRUCTORS FOR

ZAIRE'S REGULAR FORCES FOR "LAR THAT MOBUTU INTENDED TO PUT

CABINDANS THROUGH THE COURSE. THE CHINESE, HOWEVER, GAVE MOBUTU

A SUBSTANTIAL QUANTITY OF MILITARY EQUIPMENT, INCLUDING TANKS.Y

AT THE SAME TIME, CHINA WILL PROBABLY WANT TO KEEP ITS PROFILE WITH THE ANGOLAN NATIMONALIST GROUPS RELATIVELY LOW. ROBERTO, FOR HIS PART, PROBABLY DOES NOT WANT TO BECOME IDENTIFIED TOO CLOSELY WITH ANOTHER FOREIGN POWER; THE ZAIRIAN LABEL TAGGED ON HIM BY HIS OPPONENTS HAS BEEN A CONSIDERABLE POLITICAL LIABILITY.



DATE: